

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 01041 111612Z

42

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 111600Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3677

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JIDDA 1041

EXDIS

DEPT PLEASE PASS DOD

CONGEN PLS PASS CHUSMTM

DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MASS, SA, US

SUBJECT: PEACK HAWK VO LOA'S AND AGENT FEES

REF (A) JIDDA 886, (B) STATE 33413 (C) STATE 7728

1. DCM MET WITH VICE MINISTER OF DEFENSE PRINCE TURKI IN RIYADH 1300 FEB 11. PRINCE BEGAN BY SAYING THAT HE WISHED TO INFORM USG THAT SAG CONSIDERED NEGOTIATIONS AT THE PROFESSIONAL LEVEL OVER PEACE HAWK V TO BE COMPLETE. THE LOA HAD NOW BEEN REFERRED TO THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, AND THE COUNCIL'S DISCUSSION AND REVIEW WERE TO HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AT ITS LAST MEETING. PRINCE FAHD'S INDISPOSITION (TOOTHACHE) HOWEVER, HAD REQUIRED POSTPONEMENT OF THE ISSUE TO THE COUNCIL'S MEETING ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15. WE SHOULD HAVE THE LOA'S BACK, SIGNED, SOMETIME ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16. PRINCE TURKI ASKED THAT GENERAL AHMANN BE INFORMED OF THIS TIMETABLE.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 JIDDA 01041 111612Z

2. PRINCE TURKI THEN SAID THAT ALSO WITH REGARD

TO PEACE HAWK V, THE SAG HAD NOT FORGOTTEN THAT IN MID-JANUARY AMBASSADOR AKINS (SIC) HAD FORWARDED TO PRINCE SULTAN A LETTER ASKING ABOUT SAG VIEWS ON AGENT'S FEES IN PEACE HAWK V. PRINCE SULTAN'S RESPONSIBILITIES AND PREOCCUPATIONS HAD PREVENTED HIM FROM REPLYING UNTIL NOW. THE MATTER HOWEVER WOULD BE CAREFULLY STUDIED AND WE WOULD BE RECEIVING PRINCE SULTAN'S REPLY. PRINCE TURKI SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT TO THE SAG THAT ITS MILITARY DEVELOPMENT PROCEED SWIFTLY, EFFECTIVELY, AND WITHOUT INTERRUPTION. TROUBLESOME ELEMENTS MUST NOT BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISTURB SAUDI - US FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION.

3. DCM SAID THAT WITH REGARD TO COMMISSIONS EMBASSY HAD SAME DAY RECEIVED A SECOND LETTER FROM GENERAL FISH. LETTER WAS ADDRESSED TO HRH PRINCE SULTAN, BUT IN THE LATTER'S ABSENCE WE WISHED TO PRESENT IT TO HRH THE VICE MINISTER. DCM GAVE PRINCE TURKI GENERAL FISH'S LETTER (REF B), AND READ TEXT OF IT TO HIM IN ARABIC. TURKI SAID HE WAS FAMILIAR WITH POINTS IN LETTER, AND THAT MINISTRY'S REPLY TO OUR EARLIER LETTER WOULD ALSO ADDRESS POINTS MENTIONED PARA 2 OF GENERAL FISH'S MOST RECENT MESSAGE. PRINCE TURKI ASKED FOR AND RECEIVED CONFIRMATION THAT THE PEACE HAWK V LOA'S CONTAINED NO RPT NO FUNDS FOR AGENT FEES. HE MADE NO OTHER COMMENTS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: BECAUSE THE LOA'S WILL NOT RPT NOT BE SIGNED BY THE FEBRUARY 12 DEADLINE, WE REQUEST THAT DEPARTMENT AND DOD ARRANGE FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIVE DAY EXTENSION OF PEACE HAWK III TO ENABLE TO PROGRAM TO CONTINUE UNINTERRUPTED.

5. COMMENT: AFTER WE STUDIED LTG FISH'S SECOND LETTER, WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT A REPLY BY THE SAG IS NOT RPT NOT REALLY NECESSARY. IT APPEARS TO SUIT OUR LEGAL PURPOSES ALMOST AS WELL IF THE LETTER LAY - UNCONTRADICTED - IN SOME SAUDI FILE. THIS POINT, HOWEVER, WAS NOT RPT NOT MADE TO PRINCE TURKI. PORTER

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SECRET

PAGE 03 JIDDA 01041 111612Z

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED DOD.

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NNN

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